

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HONG K 10514 310857Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 IO-13 EUR-12 /084 W  
-----126010 311209Z /53

R 310228Z AUG 77  
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6521  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 10514

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2  
TAGS: PINT, VM  
SUBJ: SECOND PLENUM OF THE VCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE

REF: (A) HONG KONG 9075, (B) HONG KONG 8933

1. RADIO HANOI'S DOMESTIC BROADCAST OF AUGUST 6 ON THE VCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE CIRCULAR CONFIRMED THE RECENT MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE REPORTED IN REFTELS. THE DATE OF THE MEETING, HOWEVER, REMAINS UNCLEAR. BOTH SOURCES IN REFTELS BELIEVED THE MEETING TOOK PLACE IN JULY. AN ADDITIONAL WESTERN OBSERVER FROM HANOI RECENTLY REPORTED THAT ACCORDING TO A SOURCE WITH CLOSE CONNECTIONS TO THE VCP, THE MEETING TOOK PLACE JUST PRIOR TO THE 22-24 JULY NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN.

2. AN ARTICLE APPEARING IN THE AUGUST 19 ISSUE OF FEER BY NAYAN CHANDA INDICATES THAT THE PLENUM TOOK PLACE IN JUNE. CHANDA REPORTEDLY LEARNED THIS FROM PHAN HIEN WHOM HE INTERVIEWED IN PARIS AND WHO HAD TO DEPART FRANCE TO ATTEND THE MEETING.

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3. COMMENT: WE HAVE FOUND THAT FACTUAL INFORMATION PROVIDED BY CHANDA IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS IS USUALLY ACCURATE. IF ONE SUBTRACTS THE DAYS IN JUNE THAT PHAN HIEN WAS IN FRANCE OR TRAVELING, THE POSSIBLE DATES OF THE PLENUM MIGHT BE CONSIDERABLY NARROWED. WE CONCUR WITH EA/VLC VIEW THAT THE JULY DATES OBTAINED FROM

OBSERVERS IN HANOI MIGHT BE CAUSED BY THE DELAY IN NEWS  
TRICKLING DOWN TO FOREIGN COMMUNITY.  
CROSS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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EO Systematic Review  
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